



the company for women

## Q&A Regarding Avon's Commitment to Animal Welfare

### **1. I thought Avon doesn't conduct animal testing. Why has PETA put Avon's name on the list of companies that do test on animals?**

Respect for animal welfare is a cornerstone of Avon's product safety philosophy. In fact, Avon was the first major cosmetic company to end animal testing nearly 25 years ago and we do not test on animals today. Instead, we use non-animal product safety testing methods.

Unfortunately, a few countries require additional safety testing, which may include animal tests. Avon, in partnership with other organizations, works to help advance government acceptance of alternative non-animal testing methods. But if a compromise cannot be reached, we must comply with the testing required by local law.. Animal testing is an issue faced by all global beauty companies.

### **2. If these legal requirements in a few countries are not new, and Avon's position has not changed, why is the issue being raised now, and why has Avon moved from the PETA list of companies that do NOT test on animals to the list of companies that do?**

Although we cannot speak for PETA, we believe they have decided to become more aggressive advocates in the global arena with a focus on changing laws in the handful of countries which require animal testing for some cosmetics. Avon and PETA share a common objective to persuade governments to accept scientifically valid alternative approaches to animal testing. Avon is working together with other global beauty companies to gain acceptance of alternatives to animal testing throughout the world. Avon is just one of a long list of global beauty companies that face the same issue. The only companies that do not face these issues, are those which market their products in a limited number of countries.

### **3. Why doesn't Avon stop selling products where animal testing may be required?**

Over our 130 year history Avon has served as an agent of positive change for critical issues, including women's empowerment, human rights, environmental sustainability, diversity, animal welfare and much more. When faced with challenging situations around the world, our commitment is to remain in the countries affected and work to bring about change, such as the acceptance of non-animal testing methods. Abandoning a market does not help bring about a solution.

We are encouraged to see that China recently eliminated the animal testing requirement for certain products. However, China still requires testing on "special use" products (sunscreens, anti-pigmentation/whitening product, deodorant, fitness/slimming products, breast beautifying products, depilatories, hair growth products, hair perm and hair dyes).

### **4. What is Avon doing globally to address this issue?**

Avon has worked to advance alternatives to animal testing for decades. Avon's scientists have long participated as members of the Scientific Advisory Panel of The Institute of the In Vitro Sciences, Inc., a non-profit research and testing organization dedicated to the advancement of in vitro (non-animal) methods worldwide (PETA is also a supporter of IIVS). Similarly, Avon continues to support research into alternatives conducted by the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (FRAME) in the United Kingdom, the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing at Johns Hopkins University in the US, and the European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to



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Animal Testing. Avon is a Founding Sponsor of the American Society for Cellular Computational Toxicology. In addition, Avon works closely on this issue with other companies in the Beauty industry through participation in the Personal Care Products Council, Cosmetics Europe and various other industry trade associations worldwide.

**5. Can you specify which countries require animal testing?**

As an individual corporation doing business responsibly around the world, Avon does not believe it is in a position to call out specific countries and governments. However, in some countries where we do business additional safety testing is sometimes required by law. We are encouraged to see that China recently eliminated the animal testing requirement for certain products. However the country still requires testing on “special use” products (sunscreens, anti-pigmentation/whitening product, deodorant, fitness/slimming products, breast beautifying products, depilatories, hair growth products, hair perm and hair dyes).

**6. I am opposed to animal testing. Can I still use Avon products with confidence?**

You can be confident that Avon shares your commitment. Opposition to animal testing and respect for animal welfare has been a cornerstone of Avon’s product safety program since 1989 when Avon became the first major cosmetic company to end animal testing. We do not test on animals today. Instead, we use non-animal product safety testing methods.

Unfortunately, a few countries require additional safety testing, which may include animal testing. Avon, in partnership with other organizations, works to help advance government acceptance of alternative non-animal testing methods. But if a compromise cannot be reached, we must comply with the testing required by local law. Animal testing is an issue faced by all global beauty companies. Our shared goal is to permanently end all requirements for animal testing wherever they exist, around the world.